

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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South ruling a majority of white men in the North.

It will be seen that the "southern white men" are the criminals described in this latter extract, and "the black man" the object of the solicitude of the Iowa allies of Mr. Yost.

How shall such charges be refuted? Will Mr. Yost assist us in this good work? Will he accept our assurances that the Democrats of Virginia do not desire "to revive sectional controversy," nor to set up any unconstitutional doctrine of State sovereignty, nor to do what the Supreme Court, except what the Constitution authorizes to be done, and will he then raise his voice and protest against the libels upon the South which his allies in the northern States so persistently repeat? These libels strengthen the Democrats in Virginia, yet we would prefer to see an end put to their promulgation.

Let it be said.

The Virginia Republicans could not, if they would, dissociate themselves in the eyes of the nation from the apostles of hate in the North. The Baltimore Herald (Independent Republican) says that JOHN SHERMAN opened the Ohio campaign by waving the bloody shirt long and frantically, and adds: "To cover their many sins of omission and commission, the Republicans of Virginia are engaged in the same silly work. How long will it be before Republican politicians understand that the war is over and that the people, Republicans and Democrats alike, have no desire to perpetuate the bitterness of feeling which it engendered? To intimate that the Republican party can only appeal to the disappearing prejudices is to proclaim it poor indeed in resources." The Republican politicians know that the war is over as well as does the Herald, but they will never cease to declare that it is not over so long as they think that such a declaration can serve as a stepping-stone to power. They will never admit that the war is over as long as there is any chance to perpetuate the bitterness of feeling it engendered, or as long as an appeal to sectional prejudice can secure for them a following as big as a corporal's guard. It therefore behooves the good men of the country, irrespective of party, to crush out such men and their following. It is a patriotic duty to destroy utterly the Republican party, root and branch, and a good way to begin would be to lop off the Virginia branch.

The Candidates.

The Democrats seem to be making all over the State good nominations for the Senate and the House of Delegates. As the Wytheville Enterprise says of some of the persons named below, we say of all of them, that when we look at the names of such men as SAM. WILLIAMS, of Bland; Colonel GRAM, of Tazewell; and Judge RHEA, of Washington, for the Senate; and FULKEISON and BUCHANAN, of FLEMING; S. P. MCCONNELL, of Scott; L. BOW FULKEISON, of Lee; ROBERT HOWARD, of Russell; ED. ROBERTS, of Smyth; Dr. BLACK, of Montgomery; TOM TALLAFERRO, of Gloucester; JAMES H. DANIST, of Pulaski; GRIMSLY, of Culpeper; and others whose names do not now occur to us, we cannot but feel confident that a glorious victory in November awaits the Democracy.

The Old-Line Republicans.

A paragraph in the Washington Republican of yesterday reads as follows: "The great annual transit of Wicks, although it occurs more frequently, is not less sublime than the transit of Venus. One of the Republican's corps of astronomers, sent to observe the phenomena which attend Wicks's transit for 1885, sends a graphic report, which we print this morning." There are Old-Line Republicans who will vote with WICKHAM for FITZ LEE. This is a fact that must be taken into consideration when you begin to talk about the small majority which CLEVELAND received in Virginia last year. These Old-Line Republicans have all this time kept up a good deal of thinking, and they know that they don't want MAHONEY for a leader. And they won't have him.

The Providence (Rhode Island) Journal says:

"The people of the South reject the penny; they will use no smaller coin than the five-cent piece. This shows a want of appreciation of the value of small savings, which assures a continued slavery to the financier. In New England a man would be considered a fool who should leave three cents on a counter because he would not be bothered with them." The Journal volunteers the above information in no invidious mood, but we feel called upon to tell it in that it is somewhat behind the times. In the far southern States the invasion of the penny has perhaps not been entirely successful, but in this neighborhood we have long ago. We have gotten bravely over "such foolishness." If the editor of the Journal thinks we are mistaken, let him come down here and try to make a trade with some of our "Virginia Tankees."

Over Wise will make the same speech all over Virginia that he made here Monday there will be no need of a Democratic canvass.—Abingdon Standard.

That's Wise exactly. "He never opens his mouth but he puts his foot into it." To change one of General GRANT's celebrated sayings, all that is necessary for the Democrats to do when Wise is the opposing candidate is to "enforce Wise rigidly." Let him speak everywhere. Give him rope enough and he will be certain to hang himself. His tongue is truly an unruly member, and he can't help it. He can't be anything but what he is. It is doomed to an ignominious defeat—defeat by not less than twenty thousand majority. Not less will satisfy the people whom he charges with having incited the Danville riot.

The school census of Richmond just completed shows that there are 29,000 persons in this city under twenty-one years of age—more than one third of the entire population. This fact indicates that there are about twenty mil-

lions of persons in the United States who were born since the war closed.

And yet the Republicans imagine that they can carry elections by making appeals which do not reach these twenty millions of souls.

A CONTRAST.—The Democratic State Committee of Ohio congratulated the country upon the election of CLEVELAND, and because "all sectional animosity has ended and complete harmony is restored between the North and South."

This is the last thing that the Republicans of Ohio would wish to congratulate the country upon. Libels of the southern States are their stock in trade.

BRIEF COMMENT.

It is conceded that the Pennsylvania Democratic Convention put in a good DAY'S work.

"The country is beginning to wonder who dug up JOHN SHERMAN."

Don't know his name; but it was some one who had successfully dug the fool-killer.

LOGAN got an involuntary bath in the St. Lawrence river. But all the water in the St. Lawrence would not make JACK acceptable to the American people.

The Philadelphia Times says: "JOHN SHERMAN is a fit subject for an insane asylum." All well-regulated insane asylums should sue the Times for libel.

"A railroad train recently ran over and killed an Indian in Arizona." Would it not pay the United States to substitute railroad trains for the army?

The Philadelphia Press says: "Uncle JOHN SHERMAN has been stirring up the Democratic mania in Ohio." Oh, no; it is the Republican mania he has been stirring up—the hyenas in it especially.

A contemporary remarks that "JOHN SHERMAN" has hit his head against a stone wall." JOHN has made a mistake, as it is evident from his recent speech that there is a soft place in his head. If he wants to get the best of a stone wall let him butt his alleged heart against it.

New Books.

Putnam's Question, or, What is Truth? By Mrs. ROSAMUND BARNHART WINSTON, Frederickburg, Va. Richmond: WALKER & SON, 1885. Price, 60 cents.

For sale by the publishers.

A Prince of Darkness. A Novel, By F. WARDEN, author of "The House on the Marsh," &c., &c. New York: D. APPLETON & Co. 1885. Price in paper, 25 cents.

For sale by WEST, JOHNSTON & Co.

Glencoe, or, The Metamorphoses. A Poem in Six Books, by the Earl of Lytton (JOHN MEREDITH). New York: D. APPLETON & Co. 1885. For sale by WEST, JOHNSTON & Co.

Mr. Blair—A Letter From Equal to the Editor of the Dispatch.

The platform of the Republican party charges the Democratic party with—

"Squandering the revenues of the State by an extended and an extra session; by partisan, malicious, and unwarranted investigations; by fees for unnecessary counsel employed in cases where the Attorney-General was equal to the occasion; and by the use of wasteful means common to prodigal and unprincipled grasping of public power and plunder."

The only specification of the above charge to which I feel particularly called upon to reply is that which speaks of the "fees for unnecessary counsel employed in cases where the Attorney-General was equal to the occasion." That question I suppose with the privacy of Mr. F. S. Blair—the official conduct of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, of which body I have the honor to be a member, along with Colonel Morton Myer, the Auditor of Public Accounts, and with Mr. Isaac R. Barksdale, the Treasurer of the Commonwealth. That Board has retained counsel in certain cases to assist or to substitute the Attorney-General, as I shall proceed briefly to explain and justify.

But in the outset it is proper to say that so far from squandering the revenues of the State, the Commissioners have not paid one solitary cent to any of the counsel they have employed; not one solitary cent. No appropriation for that purpose having been voted, they had no money to pay; and having no authority to promise any, they have not promised it. The counsel they did engage in several cases, with the approval of Governor Cameron, always promptly given, were retained with the understanding that in each case they should look solely to the legislature for such fees as that body might choose to pay, except when certain parties have thought proper to guarantee the fees out of their private pockets.

The following are the cases and attendant circumstances of such employment of counsel:

1. On the 11th August, 1884, certain mandamus cases were set for trial in the court of Judge Robert W. Hughes, United States District Judge; and they were adjourned to the 21 September in consequence of the absence of Mr. Blair and other counsel.

These cases involved the proper construction of the Riddberger law—namely, that the State should be judged from the fact that under Judge Hughes's construction §31, 231-50 of consols and tenor coupons had been funded in new 3's at par, when the amendment of the law by the act of August 27, 1884, stopped further funding. Though I had been asked on the 25th of August by his clerk, Mr. R. D. Ward, that the above cases would be attended to on the 21 September by Mr. Blair without any further agency of mine, yet on that day Mr. Blair was not present, and though urged telegraphically for by the Governor he failed to come, and the important suit was decided against the Commonwealth on the 31 of September. Mr. Blair has still absent and so entered on the record.

Under this state of facts the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, deeming that they had good ground for defending these suits, and the Governor being absent, engaged Colonel W. W. Gordon, whom the Governor had previously engaged as general counsel, to assist Mr. Blair. Colonel Gordon went actively to work in the cases; but when the court met on the 7th of October his reception by Mr. Blair was of such a character as to cause him to retire; which he did, charging nothing for his services, and

so these cases were lost—I think I may say sacrificed—at a cost to the State of \$50,000, the value of each difference between the new and the fundable value of these coupons under the Riddberger schedule. Indeed, but for the extra session, which, as I have said, stopped the mischief by annulling the act, the State would probably have lost \$50,000, being the product, by the same calculation, of all the past-due tax-receivable coupons from July, 1882, to January, 1886.

(2.) About the 1st of February, 1885, the counsel of Messrs. Branch & Co. demanded that I should fund two Republics—one for \$500, the other for \$1,000—which had been rejected more than twelve months before when offered to Mr. Revely, at that time Treasurer of the Commonwealth, because they had been stolen after having been once funded. Admitting that, Messrs. Branch & Co. claimed to be entitled to their demand as bona-fide holders for a valuable consideration.

Upon my declining to fund, the counsel submitted a written statement of the facts, and the papers upon which they based it. On that paper was the following endorsement:

"I concur fully in the within opinion, and will add that I gave a verbal opinion to the same effect to the late State Treasurer, Hon. D. R. Revely, upon the facts stated."

(Signed) "F. S. BLAIR, Attorney-General."

"January 26, 1885." Reminding the counsel that my lawyer had no right to give an opinion against me, especially without my knowledge, I said that the opinion of the Attorney-General was not a decree of court, and that I should not adopt it. Upon a mandamus nisi was issued out from a tax-payer on the case to Governor Cameron; he agreed with me that we could not trust counsel who had given a written opinion against us; and he suggested that I should engage Judge Burks; which I did. Judge Burks undertook the case at once, agreeing to look to the Legislature for his compensation, and, upon agreement, the Court of Appeals decided unanimously in favor of the State. If I had followed Mr. Blair's advice it would have cost the State, at the rate of funding the particular securities, new 3 cent bonds, to the amount of \$250,500.

(3.) The case of Parsons vs. Myer was tried in Norfolk about the last of January, 1885. The counsel of Parsons, who had never offered a coupon for taxes, and had failed therefore to bring himself within the terms of the law of 1871, asked for an injunction to compel the Auditor and certain collecting officers of the government to receive his coupons when offered for taxes by any one else. Ignoring the act of 1871, which made these coupons null and void, the Court granted the injunction. The Parsons case, which was decided by the Supreme Court, was decided in favor of the Parsons party, and the Parsons party, who were treated to the best of the hospital town could give. The company invited the Stuart Horse Guard, of Richmond, to visit them at the day. The latter accepted the invitation, failed to secure transportation in time, and only one of the company came down; but he was a whole troop in himself. ROBIN ADAMS.

WIFE AT BRISTOL-GOODSON.

Another Account of His Performance—A FUGITIVE FROM THE LAW.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

BRISTOL-GOODSON, J. August 27, 1885.

Captain John S. Wise, Mahoney candidate for Governor of Virginia, spoke in Graves's warehouse last night to quite a large crowd, a very large majority of whom were Democrats. His speech was devoid of any argument or reason, and was a mere rehearsal of the threadbare political charges of the Mahoney party. The Democrats were exceedingly anxious for a joint discussion between Captain Wise and our gallant and talented young candidate for the State Senate, Judge William F. Rhea, Jr. But, owing to the fact that the Mahoney party, who were the only ones to appear, were not prepared to do so, the discussion was postponed.

It was a clear knowledge of this that caused the leading businessmen of the city to hold a meeting, in which, protesting against the decree, they pledged themselves, in writing, not to buy, or pay for, any of the coupons.

Judge Rhea, who was arranged to have a precisely similar case taken to the Supreme Court. There he argued it; and it was contemptuously kicked out of the docket, the Court declaring: "This bill is without precedent and should have been dismissed."

It calls for a declaration of an abstract right, and it is not for the court to sit to determine questions of this kind. The Mahoney party, who were the only ones to appear, were not prepared to do so, the discussion was postponed.

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